

WILD-EYED FANS, HARD-WORKING PLAYERS AND SMILING MAGNATES SPEAK WELL FOR 1919

INTEREST IN SPRING TRAINING STRUGGLES NEVER WAS GREATER

Baseball Seems Certain to Open Most Successful Season in History, as Its Popularity Now Is Unquestioned. Close Races Assured in Each League

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger
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IT MIGHT be difficult to sit down and hope the pennant winners of the National and American Leagues at this time, but it's a cinch to get up and fearlessly state that baseball will be more popular than ever before and the magnates, players and fans will be perfectly satisfied this season. While visiting all of the big league training camps in the South and witnessing a few of the exhibition games, I found wild-eyed fans, hardworking players and smiling business managers. The fans were anxious to see the games, the players were working to hold their jobs and the business managers were kept busy counting the money which poured into the boxoffice. The clubs which paired off and played exhibition games on the trip North more than made up for the training expenses.

With the players and public eagerly awaiting the opening of the season, the popularity of baseball cannot be questioned. For three years the game has been shored out of the picture by the war, but is back again stronger than ever. The ball players have shown a different spirit in the spring workouts and seem to have taken their jobs seriously. They are in better physical condition, due to their work in the army, navy and shipyards. Few reported overweight and getting into shape was an easy matter. They also have a different idea of baseball and now realize what it means from a business viewpoint.

The majority needed no coaxing to go on the training trip and did not kick when asked to work twice a day. It was much easier than beating the whistle at 7 a. m. or toiling for Uncle Sam at \$30 per month.

WITH the players in good physical condition and anxious to hold what they now call soft jobs, the public on its toes to see the games and spend real money for the privilege, baseball cannot help but have a big season in this year 1919.

Three Even Clubs in Each League

THE pennant race in both leagues will be very close, but it looks as if three clubs on each circuit will battle for a chance to split the world series coin. Chicago, New York and Pittsburgh are favorites in the National, and Boston, Cleveland and New York look best in the American. There are many dark horses, however, and anything is likely to happen. But at this time the above named clubs seem to have the edge on the others.

The Cubs should win the pennant because they will be stronger than last year when Alexander comes marching home to his baseball suit. He will round out one of the best pitching staffs ever seen in the big leagues, and the thirty or more games he will win will place the team far in the lead. Alex, Tyler, Douglas and Vaughn should score at least eighty victories this year, and Hendrix and the other twirlers also will come in for their share.

I asked one of the veteran ball players the other night why the Cubs looked so good this year.

"Well," he replied, "they have a great pitching staff, a wonderful catcher in Killefer, a great shortstop and a high-class first baseman. Hollocher will make any second baseman look good and Deal is not the worst third baseman in the world. The outfield is fast, the men are fairly good hitters and, taking it all in all, Mitchell has a powerful combination. Backert is one of the best outfielders in the game and always hits around .270. Mann and Plack also will hit well. The Cubs should breeze in this season if Alex arrives on time."

New York still is weak in the pitching department, and some of the wise birds believe the ancient infield will crack in midseason. Zimmermann, Fletcher, Doyle and Chase have passed the thirty-three year mark and cannot stand the rough going like younger men.

STILL, the club looks good on paper, and if the veterans stand up and some pitchers are discovered, the Cubs will have some opposition.

Bezdek's Pirates the Real Dark Horse

PITTSBURGH is the dark horse in the National League because of last year's showing. Bezdek is making good as a manager and has a bunch of high-class players on his payroll. With Cooper, Hamilton, Mayer, Babe Adams and Evans to do the pitching and men like Saier, Cuthbert, Carey and Southworth on the job for the heavy hitting, the Pirates loom up as formidable contenders and favorites for third place.

The other clubs are in the same class. Cincinnati has had little practice, the stars have been holding out and Pat Moran still is looking for a shortstop and some pitchers. Last winter it looked as if the Reds had a chance for the flag, but now they will be lucky to land in the first division.

The Braves have slumped since taking the road and do not look as good as in the training camp. Brooklyn has a good pitching staff, a high-class outfield, but that lets them out. The infield is weak with O'Mara, Olson, Malone and whoever is selected for first base. Schmidt will be back in the game soon, but he cannot play every position.

The Phils are improving, but still are in need of pitchers, a second baseman and one catcher. Some days they look good, but at others they appear very sad. If Coombs gets some hurlers he will make a fair showing. If not, it will be a hard fight to keep out of last place. Judging from reports, St. Louis is about the same as last year, which should be some consolation for the Phillies.

The Giants should get off to a good start because of the early games with Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Boston. They probably will pile up a bunch of victories, but will be up against it when the Cubs and Pirates appear on the first eastern trip.

TO ME, the clubs line up as follows: Chicago, New York, Pittsburgh, Boston, Cincinnati, Brooklyn and St. Louis or Philadelphia.

Race Looks Close in American League

IN THE American League the race will be much closer, for there are some clubs improving every day and might upset the dope. Right now the Red Sox have the call because of the experienced players and the pitching. Viti improves the infield, but it is not known if Ruth will add strength to the outfield. Babe, by the way, has crossed Barrow and evidently has decided not to pitch this year. He wants to be in every game and likes to play in left field. He hasn't been in the box once this season, which is contrary to the plans outlined by Barrow last winter. With Ruth eliminated as a pitcher, the hurling will be done by Mays, Sam Jones and Bush, with Dumont, Dubuc and Penock as relief men. It looks as if Babe will have to take his turn on the mound before the season gets well under way.

Because Cleveland made a great showing last year, Fohl's team is seriously considered now. The club is showing up well in the South, the pitching is good and perhaps will spring a surprise. Larry Gardner will be a big help.

The Yankees have good pitching, good hitting and good fielding, but lack speed and quick thinking. They cannot be figured better than third.

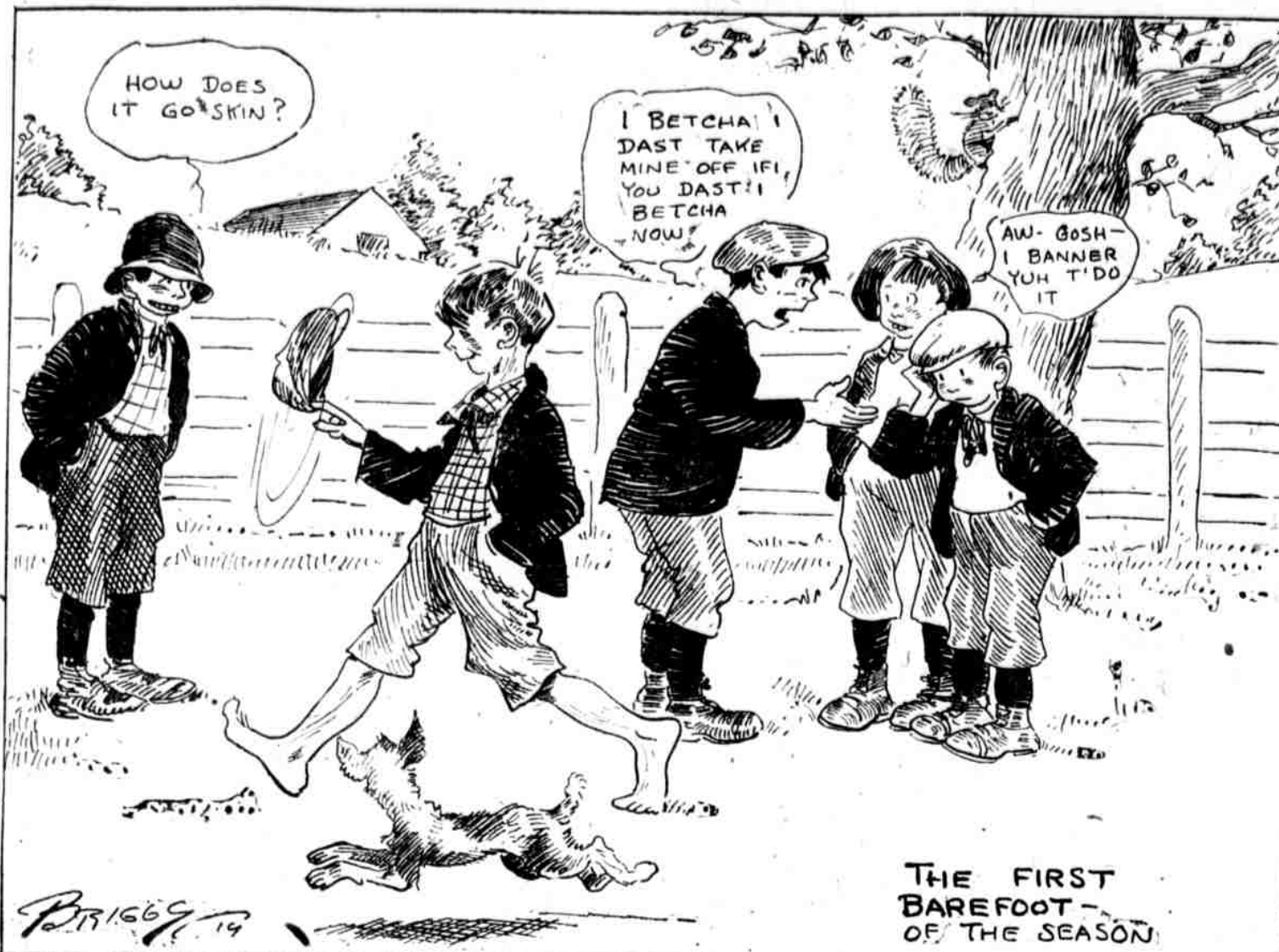
Now comes the tough part of the job. The other five clubs are bunched and you can take your pick. Washington has possibilities, and if a deal can be put through for Dave Robertson, Griff should be in the first division. Shanks can play shortstop if Davis fails to come through, and Johnson, Hagner and Shaw are three of the best pitchers in the league. Hovick also is good, and if that club ever gets going there will be plenty of excitement. Washington hasn't a bad ball club, and with Robertson to work with Milam and Sam Rice there will be some tall slugging.

THE White Sox also must be considered, but there must be an improvement in the pitching department. Outside of the hurlers, Gleason's club looks as strong as ever. Chicago and Washington must be closely watched.

CONSIDER MACK will not be in the cellar this year. He has a good team and will win the majority of the games it plays. George Burns at first, Shannon or Grove at second, Dugan, short; Thomas or Bates, third; Kopp, Walker and Captain Bobby Roth in the outfield, and Perry, Kinney, Naylor, Johnson, Anderson, Geary-Buckley and Watson as pitchers look good. Perkins and McAvoy will take care of the catching. The Athletics will be up in the race, but will have to go some to land in the first division. Detroit still has weak pitching and St. Louis is coming along in fine shape.

THEY GUARD the American League in Boston, Cleveland, New York, Washington, Chicago, Athletics, St. Louis and Detroit.

THE DAYS OF REAL SPORT



THE FIRST BAREFOOT OF THE SEASON

HAVERFORD TO HOLD JUNIOR TRACK MEET

Only Athletes Sixteen or Under Permitted in First Inter-scholastic Event

LOCAL SCHOOLS TO ENTER

By PAUL PREP

Following the policy of virtually all the leading colleges throughout the country, Haverford College has decided to hold an annual track and field meet for schoolboy athletes. The first meet will be held on the Haverford track Memorial Day.

The Haverford carnival will be unique, inasmuch as it will be an affair open only to juniors under sixteen years of age. By barring the older boys, the junior athletes, necessary for an all-around team, but never having a chance to become stars, will get their opportunity to shine.

Local Schools Invited

Invitations have been sent to many of the private and public schools in the Philadelphia district. The meet is under the supervision of Russell S. Miller, president of the Haverford Athletic Association. Silver cups will be awarded to the athletes finishing first, second and third.

Among the schools expected to send representatives are: Penn Charter, Germantown High, Haverford School, Haverford High, Friends' Central, Friends' Select, Germantown Friends', Swarthmore Prep, St. Lukes, Radnor High, Cheltenham High, Lower Merion and Wilmington Friends'.

Brown Track Dates

Brown Preparatory School will open its outdoor track season Wednesday afternoon by meeting the Palmyra High School in a dual meet at Palmyra. The Brownies have been practicing for several weeks and are expected to make a creditable showing. Lederer, Cantor and Ludlum are showing the best form.

Manager Cantor has arranged an attractive schedule. The definite dates follow: April 16, Palmyra High School; April 26, Penn relay; April 29, combined preparatory against Penn; May 6, Chester High School Freshmen; May 10, interscholastic at Glen Mills; May 14, Haddonfield High School; May 17, interscholastic championships at University of Pennsylvania. Meets are pending with Swarthmore, Norristown and West Chester High Schools.

ROBINSON LEFT \$500,000

Famous Jockey Killed at Bowie Made Fortune on Turf Louisville, Ky., April 14.—Jockey Frank Robinson, who was killed at Bowie, Md., race track more than a week ago and buried here Saturday, left an estate understood to approximate \$500,000.

The heirs include his widow, formerly Miss Lucy Simcoe, who left the Louisville high school seven weeks ago to become his bride.

Robinson, regarded as America's premier jockey, was under contract to ride for Harry Payne Whitney.

His interest was attended by many persons connected with the turf, the pathfinders being jockeys now training at Churchill Downs.

AFTER TWO CLUBS

Manufacturers' League Has Vacancies for New Teams

The Manufacturers' Baseball League will meet tonight at the Bingham Hotel. Several vacancies are open for teams that wish to gain admittance in the circuit.

Any industrial firm planning to obtain a franchise in a strictly industrial circuit is invited to send a representative to the meeting.

Patterson Eleven Defeated

Brooklyn, April 14.—With the P. A. team at Fall River only a week off, Patterson's eleven defeated a strong team of the National League yesterday at Fall River, where the Boston Dock Club were playing the season into shape in the hope of 2 wins to 4.

LOCAL AND CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS TOURNEYS FOR 1919

May 24. Championship of Schuylkill Valley; Plymouth Country Club, Norristown, Pa.
June 2. Women's championship of Pennsylvania and eastern states; Merion Cricket Club.
June 9. Pennsylvania state championship; Merion Cricket Club.
June 16. Women's championship of Delaware state; Wilmington Country Club.
June 16. Women's championship of the United States, girls' championship of the United States, mixed doubles championship of the United States; Philadelphia Cricket Club.
June 23. Delaware state championship, men; Wilmington Country Club.
June 23. Middle states championship; Orange Lawn Tennis Club, Orange, N. J.
July 12. Central New Jersey championship; Englewood Tennis Club, Beach Haven, N. J.
July 14. Clay court championship of United States; South Side Tennis Club, Chicago, Ill.
July 26. Championship of eastern Pennsylvania; Cynwyd Club.
August 1. Atlantic City championship; Atlantic City Yacht Club, Atlantic City, N. J.
August 9. Beach Haven championship; Englewood Tennis Club, Beach Haven, N. J.
August 12. Championship of southern Pennsylvania; Bedford Springs, Pa.
August 12. Longwood doubles championship of the United States; Longwood Cricket Club, Boston, Mass.
August 23. South Jersey open tournament; Ocean City Yacht Club.
August 25. Singles, junior and boys, veterans and father and son championships of the United States; West Side Tennis Club, Forest Hills, L. I.
August 30. Labor Day championship; Englewood Tennis Club, Beach Haven, N. J.
September 8. Philadelphia and district championship; Germantown Cricket Club.
September 8. Interscholastic championship of the United States; Merion Cricket Club.
December 22. Junior and boys' indoor championship; Seventh Regiment Armory, New York.

Schuylkill Valley Event First for Local Players

Clay Court Championship of the Plymouth Country Club, May 24, Will Open Tournament Season for Philadelphia District Players

By ROBERT T. PAUL

ONE of the most attractive tournaments for Philadelphia district players in the large list of events sanctioned by the National Lawn Tennis Association is the Schuylkill Valley championships, to be staged by the Plymouth Country Club on its courts just outside of Norristown, Pa.

This event was not held last year owing to the presence of this country in the war against the Huns. With the signing of the armistice, however, the Plymouth Club decided to again do its part for the game and hold the championship tourney.

Instead of scheduling the event just a few weeks prior to the national singles championships, as was the case in years gone by, the tourney will take place May 24. Few players of national prominence cared to play tournament ball on the clay court at Plymouth, and then strive for national honors on grass courts a short time later.

Local Stars to Play

By holding the event May 24, W. L. Irish, chairman of the tennis committee, is confident that he will receive an unusual large entry list. Virtually all of the local players have announced their intention of entering and quite a few of the New Yorkers are expected.

Heading the entry list will be Vincent Richards, the youth who is the present sensation of the tennis world, and holder of six national titles, and "Bill" Tilden, of this city, runnerup.

Results of Saturday's College Baseball Games

Athletics, 5; Penn. 0.
Princeton University, 6; Swarthmore College, 0.
Yale, 8; Fordham, 7 (11 innings).
Holy Cross, 20; Trinity, 1.
Army, 2; Lafayette, 1.
Bates, 9; Harvard, 7.
Navy, 16; Dickinson, 0.
Stevens, 6; C. C. N. Y., 1.
Lehigh, 4; Albright, 0.
Columbia, 14; Manhattan, 0.
Cathedral College, 34; New York State Aggies, 4.
Rhode Island State, 3; Brown, 1 (13 innings).
Rutgers, 6; New York U., 0.
Vassar, 1; Lebanon Valley, 0.

RACE SCENE SHIFTS TO HAVRE DE GRACE

Record Field to Compete in 13-Day Meeting Which Opens Wednesday

MANY SPEEDERS AT TRACK

Havre De Grace, Md., April 14.—Racing will move a matter of sixty or sixty-five miles nearer to the heart of the universe—that is, sixty or sixty-five miles nearer to Wilmington, New York and Philadelphia this week. On Wednesday the Havre Agricultural and Breeders' Association will inaugurate a spring meeting that bids fair to be the most successful in racing history.

The attendance at Bowie these two weeks has exceeded all earlier Southern Maryland records, and with special train service over the Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroads restored to pre-war efficiency, it is safe to prophesy that the Havre de Grace meeting will draw a heavy gate also.

The Pennsylvania trains from Washington and Baltimore on the one side and those from New York, Philadelphia and Wilmington on the other will run directly to the grandstand.

Havre de Grace will be the scene of thirteen days of racing, racing that will be marked by the running of a liberally endowed program and the initial appearances for their public trials of the great Eastern three-year-olds that are pointing for the \$25,000 Preakness, Pimlico's splendid three-year-old special and the Kentucky Derby, the West's most popular three-year-old event, both of which will be run in May.

It will be at Havre de Grace that the public will see under colors for the first time since last year the crack three-year-olds of the Ross, Whitney, Clark, Garrison and Whitney stables—Billy Kelly, War Pennant, War Marvel, Milkmaid, Sir Barton, Blue Laddie, Vindex, Bayard, Headstrong, Dunboyne, Purchase, Be Frank, Cirrus, Lord Brighton, etc.

YANKS RELEASE THREE

Moore, Hyatt and High Are Sent to Minors

Jacksonville, Fla., April 14.—Eddie Moore, the rosy-cheeked infielder from Richmond, was released last night by Bill Higgins, manager of the Yankees, to the Memphis Club of the Southern League. He has qualifications but needs more experience.

Hann Hyatt, who played first base for the Yankees last year after Walter Pipp joined the service, and Hughie High, the outfielder, who were on the reserve list of the club but were not ordered to report for spring training, also were released to the Toledo Club of the American Association.

BRESSLER DISCHARGED

Former Mackman Expects to Again Play With Reds

Lock Haven, Pa., April 14.—Raymond E. Bressler, the noted southpaw twirler, who has been in Uncle Sam's army since June 22 last, being located at Camp Merritt, N. J., has been honorably discharged.

He arrived here yesterday. "Rube" will go to the national capital tonight to talk over terms with Garry Herrmann, of the Cincinnati Reds.

Giant Sluggers Active

Baltimore, April 14.—The "Clay" war clubs continued to work in relentless fashion yesterday afternoon, the product being a choice collection of singles, doubles, triples and homers to the number of seven. When the afternoon's game with the New York Yankees was over, the long list of a score of 11 to 6.

Haggerty Signs With Memphis Wilkes-Barre, Pa., April 14.—Jimmy Haggerty, who was recently mustered out of the army service, has signed a contract with the Memphis Club of the Southern League. He is a right-handed pitcher and has played in amateur baseball.

ONLY RIGHT-HANDERS FOUND IN RECORD OF THIRTY WIN HURLERS

Alexander, Mathewson, Young, Walsh and Johnson Have Possessed Skill and Stamina Necessary to Arrive at Classic Border—Southpaws Missing

IN THE SPOTLIGHT—BY GRANTLAND RICE
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Back Again

The pink is back in the sun,
And the blue is back in the sky.
The clock shows long and run
In the wake of the alibi:
The green is back in the grass,
And out where the bunker sits,
I'll soon be back on an ancient track,
Back in the sand-filled pits.

The bunkers wait for me,
And over the crested foam,
Over the rolling sea
The deep traps call me home;
Home to the hook and slice,
Home to the alibi:
Home to the dread of the "lifted head,"
And home to the alibi.

Beyond Thirty

BAGGING thirty victories a season may not be one of the roughest assignments attached to the pitching department of the pastime. But it is remarkable how few star pitchers have slipped by this figure. In the way of a few illustrious examples, it might be noted that Babe Ruth never has won thirty games in a year. Neither has Jim Vaughn. In fifteen seasons of fine pitching Chief Bender never was able to lift himself to the thirty-game height. Neither was Eddie Plank.

AND both were backed up year after year by winning clubs.

Right-Handed Stamina

MOST of those who possessed both the skill and stamina needed to win thirty games were right-handers—Alexander, Mathewson, Walsh, Johnson and Young.

Such left-handed stars as Marquard, Plank, Ruth, Vaughn, etc., never were able to arrive at the classic border. The "iron man" in baseball is nearly always a right-hander. It's the right-hander who nearly always goes the long route and pitches the greater number of innings.

RIGHT-HANDED stamina has more than a thin edge upon left-handed stamina. It records more than mere words.

Harvard and Houghton

BEFORE Houghton came to Harvard the Crimson machine hadn't beaten Yale but once in ten years, and hadn't scored a touchdown in something like six years. With Houghton's arrival the scenery turned turtle. Out of the next nine Harvard-Yale classics Harvard won five, lost two and tied two. In the same way Harvard had the Princeton tiger securely caged. Houghton, of course, had the material. But there is a vast difference between improving good material and handling it poorly.

There is still some argument extant as to whether Houghton made Harvard's football reputation or whether Hardwick, Brickley, Mahan, etc., made Houghton's.

Those who take the latter trend of the debate show that before such well-trained prep stars as Brickley, Hardwick, Mahan, etc., arrived, Houghton had won only one game from Yale out of four attempts.

Fifty-Fifty

WITH no desire to play it safe by the old fifty-fifty, yes-and-no route, our bleak opinion is that the division was fairly even. Houghton was undoubtedly a great coach—one of the greatest in football history.

Houghton also from 1912 to 1916 was allotted some of the greatest material football has ever known.

There was Brickley—a trained star and a great kicker before he came to Harvard.

Hardwick, a great footballist before he ever slipped into a Crimson jersey; Bradley, Pennock, Epton—all eminent luminaries in the football sky.

And later there was Mahan, another well-trained marvel, who was a star the first day he stepped upon the field.

After 1911 Houghton had fairly easy sailing. But for all that, if he had been a poor coach he could easily have spoiled a lot of his best talent.

TO PRODUCE such a regime as Harvard enjoyed in 1912-13-14-15, when she stopped Princeton steadily and ran up more than 100 points against Yale—while Yale was scoring five—requires a combination of first-class coaching and first-class material.

Hardwick and Houghton

"HAUGHTON," remarked Tack Hardwick, one night in France last summer, "had the confidence of his men more than any coach I ever saw. They all believed he knew more football than any one that ever lived. 'When he told them to do a certain thing they all believed that was exactly the right thing to do. If he had ever said, 'I want you men to run and jump from this 200-foot cliff, I'll catch you as you come down,' I believe we'd have done it to a man."

The Eternal Outcast

The world may soon forget the Hun.
Through brief existence's sickle ranges;
But when the last word's said and done,
The Empire's status never changes.

Forced Marches

The soft road is a good one to take if you are not going anywhere.
There is a battlefied back of every front that is full of dead dreams.
It is remarkable how few base hits you can make by holding your bat on your shoulder.

WITH all the debate surging back and forth, we may not know who won the war, but at least we know who didn't.

ACCORDING to Lundenoff, the Kaiser decided late in September that Germany was about through. Which took the same amount of genius that it takes every August to say the same thing about the Cincinnati Reds.

AT THAT, you can't blame the average doughboy from grinning when he reads where such-and-such a general won such-and-such a battle.

THE Hon. Ping Bodie's idea is not so much to "hit 'em where they ain't," but to hit 'em where they can't get to without jumping a fence.

There's something about them you'll like.

Twenty to the package

Trade Mark

Herbert Tareyton London Cigarettes